

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

132

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FROM: NEW YORK

EYES ONLY

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1629, NOVEMBER 4, 2 PM

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PRIORITY

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By UBA/RE, NARS, Date 4/22/77

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YOST SAW NARASIMHAN AND LOUTFI THIS MORNING CONCERNING ICRC INSPECTION PROCEDURES. HE EMPHASIZED MOOD OF FIRMNESS AND DETERMINATION REFLECTED IN WASHINGTON YESTERDAY THAT, HAVING IN MIND RECENT OUTRAGEOUS SOVIET DECISION ON MATTER OF GRAVEST CONSEQUENCE TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY, THOROUGHLY ADEQUATE AND CONVINCING INSPECTION PROCEDURES BE ESTABLISHED TO INSURE THAT SOVIET OFFENSIVE WEAPONS HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM CUBA AND THAT NO MORE SUCH WEAPONS WERE INTRODUCED.

NARASIMHAN RECOMMENDED THAT, IN VIEW RIGID POSITIONS ADOPTED YESTERDAY BY MOROZOV ON CERTAIN ICRC PROCEDURES, MCCLOY RAISE THESE POINTS WITH KUZENTZOV IN HOPE OF MOVING SOVIET POSITION HERE:

1. USE OF U.S. RATHER THAN NEUTRAL VESSELS BECAUSE OF CONVENIENCE AND SAVING OF EXPENSE, WITH FURTHER SUGGESTION THAT IF SOVIET INSIST TENDERS OR LAUNCHES UTILIZED BOARDING SOVIET VESSELS WOULD FLY NEUTRAL FLAG;
2. FACT THAT U.S. ACCEPTANCE OF "HAIL AND PASS" PROCEDURE IS LIMITED TO CURRENT FEW DAYS AND IS NOT ACCEPTABLE FOR ICRC INSPECTION SYSTEM;
3. DURATION ICRC SYSTEM MUST BE UNTIL VERIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION OF REMOVAL OFFENSIVE WEAPONS FROM CUBA PERMITS LIFTING U.S. QUARANTINE, RAHER THAN AS SUGGESTED BY MOROZOV FOR 10 DAYS REMAINING OF TWO OR THREE WEEKS INTERIM PERIOD PROPOSED IN

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-2- 1629, NOVEMBER 4, 2: PM: FROM NEW YORK

SYG'S APPEAL.

YOST PHONED THESE RECOMMENDATIONS TO MCCLOY WHO AGREED TO TAKE THEM UP WITH KUZNETZOV TODAY AS WELL AS FURTHER POINT THAT SOVIETS SHOULD SEE TO IT THAT VESSELS OF THEIR BLOC ALLIES ALSO COMPLY WITH ICRC INSPECTION SYSTEM.

YOST INFORMED NARASIMHAN AND LOUTFI OF NEUTRAL VESSELS "SEA SEARCH", "SEVEN SKIES", "EAGLE" AND "ARNETA" WHICH WOULD PROBABLY BE QUICKLY AVAILABLE FOR CHARTER IF U.S. VESSELS CANNOT BE USED. NARASIMHAN SAID SOVIETS WOULD PRESUMABLY, IF THEY MAINTAINED PRESENT POSITION, REJECT TWO VESSELS OF PANAMANIAN REGISTRY BUT PROBABLY WOULD ACCEPT SWEDISH AND FINNISH VESSELS.

UN OFFICIALS REPORTED THEIR LEGAL OFFICERS CONTINUE TO BELIEVE IT IS EXTREMELY UNLIKELY THAT ICRC WILL AGREE TO INSPECT ANY VESSEL FLAG GOVERNMENT OF WHICH HAS NOT GIVEN PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT TO SUCH INSPECTION. THEY ALSO EXPRESS DOUBT WHETHER IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR UN EVEN TO NOTIFY OFFICIALLY OTHER MARITIME GOVERNMENTS OF INSPECTION PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED AT REQUEST AND FOR BENEFIT OF ONE OR TWO SUCH GOVERNMENTS. YOST POINTED OUT THAT WE FEEL SOVIETS SHOULD OBTAIN COMPLIANCE BY THEIR BLOC ALLIES AND THAT IN ANY CASE SUSPENSION OF OUR QUARANTINE AFTER INSTITUTION ICRC SYSTEM WOULD PRESUMABLY APPLY ONLY TO SUCH VESSELS COMING FROM BLOC PORTS AS WERE WILLING TO SUBJECT THEMSELVES TO THIS SYSTEM. UN OFFICIALS SUGGESTED U.S. MIGHT TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR INFORMING ALL MARTIME GOVERNMENTS OF INSTITUTION OF NEW SYSTEM AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO OUR QUARANTINE.

UN OFFICIALS ALSO REPORTED THAT THEIR LEGAL COUNSEL CONTINUES TO ADVISE SYG THAT HE DOES NOT HAVE AUTHORITY TO COVER EXPENSES ICRC OPERATION FROM \$2 MILLION PEACE-KEEPING FUND WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION FROM SC OR GA. HIS ARGUMENT IS THAT, IN ABSENCE ANY MANDATE WHATSOEVER FROM SC AND IN VIEW OF FACT, ... , SOVIETS MAY REFUSE TO APPROVE AUTHORIZATION FOR THIS

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

-3- 1629, NOVEMBER 4, 2 PM: FROM NEW YORK

OPERATION WHICH WOULD INVOLVE CONTRIBUTION BY THEMSELVES, SYG WOULD BE UNWISE HIMSELF AUTHORIZE ANY SUBSTANTIAL EXPENDITURE. YOST REITERATED OUR ARGUMENT WHY USE OF UN PEACE-KEEPING FUND FOR THIS PURPOSE IS ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE. IT WAS AGREED THAT WE WOULD ARRANGE MEETING BETWEEN U.S. AND UN LAWYERS ON THIS POINT TOMORROW. NARASIMHAN POINTED OUT IT MIGHT VERY WELL BE POSSIBLE TO INCLUDE AUTHORIZATION FOR UN EXPENDITURE FOR THIS PURPOSE IN FINAL ACTION BY SC ON CUBAN ISSUE. HOWEVER, IT IS NECESSARY ASSURE ICRC PROMPTLY THAT IT WILL BE REIMBURSED FOR ANY EXPENDITURES ARISING FROM THIS OPERATION AND HE IS DOING SO ON BASIS U.S. AGREEMENT REIMBURSEMENT WILL BE FORTHCOMING IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER.

FINALLY, NARASIMHAN REPORTED THAT HIS LATEST INFORMATION IS THAT ICRC REPRESENTATIVE RUEGGER WILL NOT ARRIVE IN NEW YORK UNTIL NOVEMBER 6.

STEVENSON

JTC

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